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Dated: November 16, 2005 Signature:

Beverly S. Carter



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Patent  
Docket No. 393032024300

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of:  
Shinichi ITO et al.

Serial No.: 09/823,704

Filing Date: March 30, 2001

For: INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM  
AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL  
METHOD USING NETWORK

Examiner: E. P. Leroux

Group Art Unit: 2161

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, and with reference to the Information Disclosure Statement submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on August 31, 2005, enclosed is a copy of a Japanese office action (and its English translation) dated November 1, 2005 issued in a corresponding foreign application. The Examiner is requested to make this document of record.

The information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Director to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **393032024300**.

Dated: November 16, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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